October is National Hearing Safety Month and October 6-12 is National Fire Prevention week.

Both of these are applicable to our October "Holiday" of Halloween.

When families are out and about Trick or Treating, please be sure that costumes do not hinder hearing. We are usually all focused on making sure everyone can see to walk about a neighborhood at dark. Being able to hear a hazard can be just as important. A dog running towards people barking can sometimes be heard before being seen. Listen as well as look for vehicles as some may drive slowly with limited lights on. Groups of trick or treaters may be noisy and some one asking for help may not be heard. Every so often ask the groups to keep the noise down.

During the Halloween period, bonfire parties become more popular. Be sure you have a proper fire pit away from structures before starting a fire. Ensure there is a barrier that will keep children from getting near to the fire. Have at least one fire extinguisher handy to put out ember fires as the grass and brush become dry in the fall. Always douse the fire and stay with it for awhile to ensure it is actually out.

Stay safe and enjoy Halloween.

